[Translation]

Rail Link with Mewat

3094. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has given an assurance to connect Mewat with rail;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such link is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Posting in J & K

3095. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government employees under the Ministry have a tenure posting of only one year in Ladakh division of Jammu and Kashmir and some North Eastern States of the country;

(b) whether newly recruited employees having no experience are being posted to man the vacant posts and to handle sophisticated equipment causing damage to the costly machines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the tenure of one year posting in the places mentioned above is likely to be extended to two years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Recruitment is made strictly on the basis of the recruitment Rules. Persons having requisite qualification/ experience are appointed against the vacancies at different Stations including Ladadh Division of the state of Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States of the country.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The present tenure at difficult stations in considered appropriate.

ISD Plan for Hassan

3096. SHRI K.S. RAYADU :
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "PMO Pushes Rs. 10 crore ISD Plan for Hassan" appearing in the *'Indian Express'* dated January 28, 1997;

(b) if so, the details and facts in this regard;

(c) whether 20 UHF sets are being installed in Hassan district, Karnataka;

(d) the number and names of the districts having UHF sets in Karnataka;

(e) whether UHF sets are being installed in Hassan district, Karnataka;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the SDEs have been deputed from other districts of the State to expedite the work in Hassan district;

(h) whether MARR System is being installed in Hassan; and

(i) if so, the number and names of the districts having MARR system in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is planned to provide STD on reliable madia using a combination of Optical Fibre Cable, UHF and Statellite Systems. 13 stations are being covered on Optical Fibre Cable and 4 on Radio System. In addition, it is proposed to provide Satellite communications equipment at 2 locations.

(c) 182 UHF sets have been planned for all the districts in Karnataka State. Out of this 11 will be in Hassan. Action is in hand to commission 4 sets on priority in Hassan.

(d) Total 199 UHF sets are working in 19 districts of Karnataka. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In view of reply to (e), qusestion does not arise.

(g) The installation work is generally handled by specialised units who are competent to carry out such works involving high technical expertise. Such units work for the state as a whole and are deputed routinely all over the state